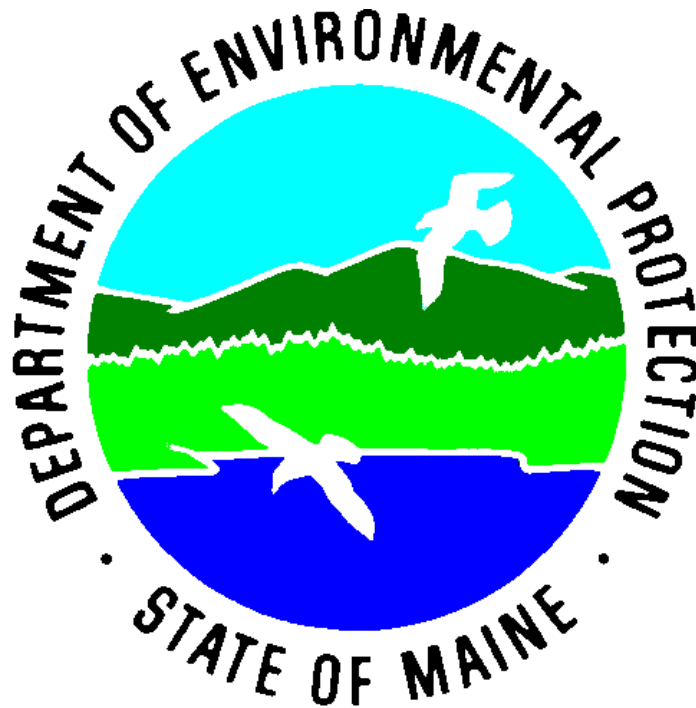


Department of Environmental Protection



SMALL COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM 2002 PRIORITY LIST

I. Program Description

The State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection administers the Construction Grants Program and State Revolving Loan Program. The major funding sources for these programs are the Environmental Protection Agency grants and State Bond Issues. Small water pollution problems have been difficult to correct with these programs since they are tailored for larger sewage treatment needs.

The Small Community Program, originally established by the 110th Legislature, can solve these small but serious water quality problems by providing technical and grant assistance to towns which can be used to construct individual and cluster septic systems and other small wastewater treatment facilities. The local share of most projects is covered directly by the beneficiaries of the grant and don't require the use of town funds.

II. Enabling Legislation

38 MRSA Sec. 411 State Contribution to Pollution Abatement

"...The commissioner may pay up to 90% of the expense of a municipal or quasi-municipal pollution abatement construction program or a pollution abatement construction program in an unorganized township or plantation authorized by the county commissioners in which the construction cost of the project does not exceed \$100,000 as long as total expenditures for the small projects do not exceed \$1,000,000 in any fiscal year and not more than one grant is made to any applicant each year, except that the commissioner may pay a percentage of the cost of individual projects serving single-family dwellings, seasonal dwellings or commercial establishments according to the following schedule:

ANNUAL INCOME	SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING	SEASONAL DWELLING
\$0 to \$5,000	100%	50%
\$5,001 to \$20,000	90%	50%
\$20,001 to \$30,000	50%	25%
\$30,001 to \$40,000	25%	25%
\$40,001 or more	0%	0%

GROSS PROFIT	COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT
\$0 to \$50,000	50%
\$50,001 to \$100,000	25%
\$100,001 or more	0%

For the purposes of this section, "annual income" means the sum of all the property owner's federal taxable income for the previous year for single-family or seasonal dwellings and "gross profit" means the sum of all the commercial establishment owner's gross profits for the previous year as listed on the relevant federal income tax returns.

To determine eligibility, the commissioners may require an applicant to submit a copy of the relevant federal income tax return of the owner or owners. In addition to any penalty adjudged under section 349, a person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in the application for a grant under this section and who receives such a grant shall, upon conviction, make restitution to the department in an amount equal to the amount of the grant plus interest and reasonable recovery cost incurred by the department.

...State grant-in-aid under this section shall be limited to grants for waste treatment facilities, interceptor systems and outfalls. The word "expense" shall not include costs relating to land acquisition or debt service, unless allowed under federal statutes and regulations.

The Department shall develop a project priority list, for approval by the board, for pollution abatement construction. The factors to be considered in developing the priority lists shall include, but not be limited to, protection of ground and surface water supplies, shellfish, general public health hazards and water contact activities. All proceeds of the sale of bonds for the construction and equipment of pollution abatement facilities to be expended under the direction and supervision of the Department of Environmental Protection shall be segregated, apportioned and expended as provided by the Legislature."

The following priority system was used to develop the FY 2002 Priority List:

III. Priority System

Applications are prioritized by the severity of the pollution problem posed by the existing condition. Four categories of pollution problems are used to prioritize applications. Grants are awarded on the basis of priority category assigned, documentation of specific problems, and the number of requests received during the year.

Priority 1 Water Supply Protection

The projects must eliminate a source of contamination to a community water supply as defined by 22 M.R.S.A. § 601. Water Supply Protection priority is assigned to projects where a potential public health hazard exists as a result of the contamination, and the contamination does or will require alternative sources of water or additional water treatment if the project is not carried out.

Priority 2 Shellfishery Protection

The projects must eliminate a source of contamination to a shellfishing area. Shellfishery Protection priority is assigned to projects that will eliminate sources of waste responsible for a shellfish area closure or eliminate sources of pollution in order to maintain an open status, according to the standards of the Department of Marine Resources.

Priority 3 Water Quality Protection

The project will eliminate a discharge of untreated sewage to waters of the state. Water Quality Priority is assigned to projects that will remove these discharges.

Priority 4 Public Nuisance Conditions

The project will eliminate a hazard to public health resulting from the improper disposal of sewage. Public nuisance conditions may exist where there is no discharge of sewage to a waterbody. Public Nuisance Conditions priority is assigned to projects where a public health hazard exists due to improper wastewater disposal.

The following applicants have been approved for a 2002 Small Community Grant:

PRIORITY 1–Public Drinking Water Supply Protection

NONE

PRIORITY 2–Shellfishery Protection

BLUE HILL	\$6,000	JONESPORT	\$8,000
BREMEN	\$10,000	LUBEC	\$16,000
CASTINE	\$12,000	MILBRIDGE	\$30,000
CUTLER	\$18,000	PERRY	\$12,000
EASTPORT	\$8,000	SEARSPORT	\$50,000
FRANKLIN	\$18,000	SOUTHWEST HARBOR	\$5,000
GOULDSBORO	\$5,000	ST. GEORGE	\$40,000
HARPSWELL	\$40,000	SULLIVAN	\$6,000
ISLESBORO	\$60,000	TREMONT	\$6,000

PRIORITY 3–Water Quality Protection

AMITY	\$18,000	DYER BROOK	\$18,000
AROOSTOOK COUNTY	\$5,000	EAGLE LAKE	\$26,000
ASHLAND	\$12,000	FORT FAIRFIELD	\$24,000
BENTON	\$6,000	FORT KENT	\$24,000
BRADLEY	\$12,000	FRENCHVILLE	\$20,000
BUCKFIELD	\$12,000	GARFIELD PLT.	\$6,000
CALAIS	\$4,000	GRAND ISLE	\$8,000
CASTLE HILL	\$14,000	HAMLIN	\$40,000
CHAPMAN	\$12,000	HANCOCK COUNTY	\$6,000
CYR PLT.	\$10,000	HARTLAND	\$10,000
DEXTER	\$12,000	JAY	\$20,000
DIXFIELD	\$3,000	LITTLETON	\$7,000
DOVER-FOXCROFT	\$6,000	LIVERMORE	\$18,000

PRIORITY 3–Continued

LONG ISLAND	\$30,000	PHILLIPS	\$10,000
MADAWASKA	\$22,000	PORTAGE LAKE	\$30,000
MAPLETON	\$6,000	REED PLT.	\$20,000
MASARDIS	\$18,000	ROCKPORT	\$6,000
MILFORD	\$12,000	ST. AGATHA	\$10,000
MONROE	\$4,000	ST. ALBANS	\$6,000
MONTICELLO	\$12,000	STACYVILLE	\$6,000
MORO PLT.	\$6,000	STONINGTON	\$12,000
MOUNT VERNON	\$18,000	WALLAGRASS	\$20,000
NEW CANADA	\$30,000	WASHBURN	\$20,000
NEW LIMERICK	\$6,000	WESTMANLAND	\$18,000
NEW SWEDEN	\$18,000	WILTON	\$15,000
PARKMAN	\$10,000	WOODLAND	\$7,000
PERHAM	\$10,000		

PRIORITY 4–Nuisance Conditions

ATKINSON	\$6,000	MARIAVILLE	\$6,000
BELFAST	\$6,000	OAKLAND	\$18,000
BREWER	\$6,000	PITTSTON	\$12,000
CAMBRIDGE	\$6,000	READFIELD	\$6,000
CHESTERVILLE	\$6,000	RICHMOND	\$4,000
CHINA	\$12,000	ST. JOHN PLT.	\$6,000
DAMARISCOTTA	\$6,000	STRONG	\$6,000
FARMINGTON	\$18,000	TURNER	\$12,000
KITTERY	\$4000	UNION	\$12,000
LIMESTONE	\$5,000	VAN BUREN	\$15,000
LINCOLN	\$6,000	WASHINGTON	\$12,000
MAGALLOWAY PLT.	\$3,000	WINTERPORT	\$12,000

Additional Needs

A contingency fund of approximately 15% will be kept in reserve to be used as follows:

1. Grant Increases to Cover Actual Construction Costs

Grants have been made based on estimates and will vary when actually bid. Increases will be made to cover actual costs if funds are available.

2. Overboard Discharge Grant Program

The priority areas for this year's overboard discharge grant program are shellfishing areas closed or threatened exclusively by licensed overboard discharges. Small community grants funds will be available to any community participating in the OBD program in order to remove any illegal discharges found in these areas.

3. Emergency Situations

Requests for projects that must be done immediately to eliminate a public emergency will be considered on a case by case basis if funding is available.